

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 TOKYO 01702 011043Z
ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W
-----113624 011106Z /14
O 011030Z FEB 78
FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 4887

S E C R E T TOKYO 1702

EXDIS

E.O.11652: XGDS-3
TAGS: PDIP ASEC US VM JA
SUBJECT: HUMPHREY INDICTMENT

REF: STATE 25233

1. EMBOFFS INFORMED WATANABE, FONOFF 1ST NORTH AMERICAN
DIVDIR, AFTERNOON FEBRUARY 1 OF HUMPHREY INDICTMENT
AND FACT THAT AMEMBASSY TOKYO TELEGRAM WAS AMONG
COMPROMISED DOCUMENTS LISTED IN INDICTMENT.
EMBOFFS DESCRIBED CONTENTS OF DOCUMENT IN QUESTION
(DATE AND GENERAL SUBJECT MATTER, AS STATED IN
INDICTMENT, WAS ALREADY IN TOKYO EVENING NEWSPAPERS),
GIVING NAME OF FONOFF OFFICIAL QUOTED IN DOCUMENT AND
NOTING THAT OFFICIAL HAD OFFERED REPORTING OFFICER
CANDID AND WIDE-RANGING VIEW OF CURRENT STATE OF JAPAN-
VIETNAM RELATIONS.

2. EMBOFFS FURTHER NOTED THAT IN COURSE OF TRIAL
PROCEEDINGS, THERE WAS POSSIBILITY DOCUMENTS
LISTED IN INDICTMENT MIGHT BE MADE PUBLIC DESPITE
BEST EFFORTS TO PREVENT THIS. IF DISCLOSURE
APPEARED IMMINENT, USG WOULD INFORM FONOFF AS
FAR IN ADVANCE AS POSSIBLE.

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3. IN RESPONSE TO WATANABE'S QUESTIONS, EMBOFFS
CONFIRMED THAT DOCUMENTS DESCRIBED IN INDICTMENT
WERE NOT EXHAUSTIVE LIST OF MATERIAL COMPROMISED.

4. WATANABE EXPRESSED PROFOUND CONCERN AND REGRET
THAT HUMPHREY CASE HAD OCCURRED.
WATANABE EMPHASIZED THAT ABOVE ALL ELSE, USG NOT

ALLOW DOCUMENT TO BE MADE PUBLIC. WHILE CERTAIN AMOUNT OF DAMAGE TO JAPANESE INTERESTS VIS-A-VIS HANOI HAD PRESUMABLY ALREADY OCCURRED, IT WOULD BE COMPOUNDED IF DOCUMENT WERE TO BE MADE PUBLIC.

5. FOLLOWING FOREGOING EXCHANGE, CHARGE TELEPHONED VICE FONMIN ARITA TO EXPRESS OUR DEEP REGRET AND OUR DETERMINATION TO MAINTAIN TO EXTENT POSSIBLE CONFIDENTIALITY OF DOCUMENTS IN QUESTION.

6. AFTER FOREGOING WAS WRITTEN, WATANABE TELEPHONED, HAVING DISCUSSED MATTER WITH VICE FONMIN ARITA AND AMERICAN AFFAIRS DIRGEN NAKAJIMA, TO MAKE FOLLOWING POINTS:

A) IT WAS OF UTMOST IMPORTANCE THAT THERE BE NO COMMENT -- WHETHER FROM STATE, JUSTICE OR ELSEWHERE IN USG -- WITH RESPECT TO SUBSTANCE OF TELEGRAM IN QUESTION UNLESS GOJ HAS BEEN FULLY CONSULTED AND HAS GIVEN EXPLICIT PERMISSION.

B) WILL INDICTMENT BE PUBLISHED (OR HAS IT ALREADY BEEN MADE PUBLIC)?

C) WILL DOCUMENTS LISTED IN INDICTMENT BE
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ATTACHED TO INDICTMENT (I.E. WILL TOKYO TELEGRAM BE REPRODUCED AND CIRCULATED, THEREBY INCREASING POSSIBILITY OF ITS BEING OBTAINED BY PRESS)?

D) FONOFF WOULD LIKE TO HAVE COPY OF INDICTMENT.

7. EMBASSY WOULD APPRECIATE RESPONSES TO POINTS B AND C AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. MAY WE PROVIDE COPY OF INDICTMENT AS CONTAINED STATE 25932?
SHERMAN

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: ESPIONAGE, DOCUMENTS, ARRESTS, DEPARTMENTAL TELEGRAMS, COURT PROCEEDINGS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 01 feb 1978
Decaption Date: 20 Mar 2014
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978TOKYO01702
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: X3
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780047-1256
Format: TEL
From: TOKYO
Handling Restrictions:
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t197802103/aaaadjuv.tel
Line Count: 105
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
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Office: ACTION SS
Original Classification: SECRET
Original Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: SECRET
Previous Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Reference: 78 STATE 25233
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 31 aug 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3437139
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: HUMPHREY INDICTMENT
TAGS: PDIP, ASEC, US, VM, JA, (HUMPHREY, RONALD LOUIS)
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/d37e6dcd-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014